



Carrie Page, President; Klaudia Pasternak, Vice President; Christina Rusnak, Treasurer; Kelly Vaneman, Secretary; <http://www.iawm.org/>

Contact: Ingrid Stölzel, SNM Competition Chair: snm@iawm.org

Winners of the IAWM 2019 Search for New Music Competition

The International Alliance for Women in Music (IAWM) has selected winners of its 2019 Search for New Music Competition. The competition recognizes the accomplishments of IAWM member composers and fosters IAWM's goal of increasing awareness of the musical contributions of women. IAWM hopes that performers around the world will see this music as a resource for their own concert programming. There were 120 submissions from 11 countries around the world.

Winners in the various categories are:

2019 Ruth Anderson Commission Prize (\$1,000), sponsored by Ruth Anderson, for a new sound installation with electro-acoustic music.

Winner: Lauren Spavelko for her Electronic Music Installation "Black Box 2.0"

2019 Christine Clark/Theodore Front Prize (\$500), sponsored by Christine Clark of Theodore Front Musical Literature, Inc., for a large chamber work (for 9+ instruments) and/or orchestral works; may include works featuring soloist (vocal or instrumental).

Winner: Yi-Ning Lo for her composition "Woven Veins"

2019 Miriam Gideon Prize (\$500), sponsored by Lucille Field Goodman, to a composer at least 50 years of age for a work for solo voice & 1-5 instruments.

Winner: Ellen Ruth Harrison for her composition "All One Can Imagine"

2019 Libby Larsen Prize (\$300), sponsored by Libby Larsen, to a composer who is currently enrolled in school for a work in any medium.

Winner: Cara Haxo for her composition "Three Erasures"

2019 Pauline Oliveros New Genre Prize (\$300), sponsored by Claire Chase, for works incorporating innovative form or style, such as improvisation, multimedia, use of non-traditional notation, open instrumentation, or new performance practices.

Winner: Lisa Mezzacappa for her composition “Organelle”

2019 PatsyLu Prize (\$500), sponsored by Patsy Rogers and Lucille Field Goodman, for classical art music in any form by black women and/or lesbians.

Winner: Chiayu Hsu for her composition “Taiwan Miniatures”

2019 Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble Prize (\$300) for a Jazz compositions of any duration for small ensemble to big band (4-17 instruments)

Winner: Sam Spear for her composition “Survivor's Suite”

2019 Alex Shapiro Prize (\$500 and mentorship/consultation from Alex Shapiro), sponsored by Alex Shapiro, for a work of any duration for large ensemble wind band requiring a conductor, with or without soloist, acoustic or electroacoustic, published or as yet unpublished.

Winner: Ruby Fulton for her composition “1 in 10,000”

2019 Judith Lang Zaimont Prize (\$400) sponsored by Judith Lang Zaimont, for an extended instrumental composition—large solo or chamber works—by a composer at least 30 years old whose music has not yet been recorded or published.

Winner: Seunghee Chrissy Lee for her composition “Bon II”

The adjudicators were Jennifer Bellor, Sara Graef, Migiwa Miyajima, Jane Rigler, Sakari Dixon Vanderveer and Nina Young. Ingrid Stölzel served as chair of the competition.

Biographies for the 2019 Prize Winners:

Ruth Anderson Commission Prize winner: **Lauren Spavelko (b. 1989)** is a composer, arranger, studio teacher, performer, and visual artist. People are her favorite part of music. She spends most of her time creating and connecting with them. Her most notable works are *Baby Book*, a song cycle for soprano on miscarriage, pregnancy, and motherhood (winner of Festival dei Due Mondi’s 2017 Young Composers Competition in Spoleto, Italy and finalist for the 2019 NATS Art Song Composition Award); and *Kéyah*, a symphonic work in collaboration with National Parks Eminent Photographer Frank Lee Ruggles commissioned by the Central Ohio Symphony. Lauren graduated from the University of Louisville (M.M. Composition) and Ohio Wesleyan University (B.M. Music Education). Her composition teachers include Steve Rouse, Clint Needham, and Jason Bahr. You can hear her laughing through Columbus, Ohio while swing dancing, singing and fiddling, and making a joyful raucous with her artistically-inclined circle. Learn more: www.LaurenSpavelko.com

Clark/Front Prize winner: **Yi-Ning Lo**, born in 1995, is a composer and a pianist from Taiwan. Over her career, she has shown particular interests in harmony, structures, the joint evolution and combination of sounds, as well as the relationship between text and music. As a pianist, she plays pieces from a variety of periods and styles, including contemporary music and pieces created by herself. Yi-Ning is currently pursuing a MM in composition at the Eastman School of Music, studying with Professor Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez. She holds a Bachelor's degree of Fine Arts from National Taiwan Normal University, where she studied with Professor Gordon Chin. She was awarded the Wayne Brewster Barlow Prize in 2019.

Gideon Prize winner: **Ellen Ruth Harrison**, a composer of lyrical, vividly colored music, lives in Cincinnati, OH, where she teaches at UC's College-Conservatory of Music. In addition to instrumental chamber music, she writes frequently for voice. Melody figures prominently in her work, as does her concern for color and gently shifting harmonies. Harrison's music has received numerous honors and awards from organizations such as the Fromm Music Foundation, the Jacob K. Javits Foundation, and the Ohio Arts Council. Her works have been widely performed in the United States and abroad by a diverse range of performers. Harrison earned her doctorate in composition from the University of California, Berkeley. She spent two years studying in Paris supported by U.C. Berkeley's Prix de Paris, and also earned an Artist's Diploma from the Musikhochschule in Stuttgart and a Bachelor of Music from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Her music is available on Albany and Emeritus Records.

Larsen Prize winner: Described as “movingly lyrical” (Avant Music News) and “quirky but attractive” (The Art Music Lounge), the music of **Cara Haxo** often incorporates stories, poetry, and artwork inspired by her childhood. Haxo was awarded the 2013 National Federation of Music Clubs Young Composers Award, the 2013 International Alliance for Women in Music Ellen Taaffe Zwilich Prize, and second prize in the 2012 Ohio Federation of Music Clubs Student/Collegiate Composers Contest. She has received commissions from the International Contemporary Ensemble, Quince Contemporary Vocal Ensemble, Splinter Reeds, and the PRISM Quartet, amongst other ensembles. Haxo earned her Ph.D. in Composition at the University of Oregon in June 2019, where she worked as a Graduate Teaching Fellow in Music Theory. She also holds degrees from Butler University and The College of Wooster. She currently serves as an Academic Dean and faculty member at The Walden School Young Musicians Program in New Hampshire. Visit <http://chaxomusic.com>.

Pauline Oliveros New Genre Prize winner: **Lisa Mezzacappa** has been an active collaborator in the San Francisco Bay Area music community for more than 15 years. Her activities as a composer, bassist and ensemble leader encompass ethereal chamber music, electro-acoustic works, avant-garde jazz, music for groups from duo to large ensemble, and collaborations with film, dance and visual art. Mezzacappa has released her music on the New World, Clean Feed, NoBusiness, Leo and NotTwo record labels, and her work has been supported by the MAP Fund, Foundation for Contemporary Arts and the Aaron Copland Fund. Current projects include the improvising orchestra, the duo B. Experimental Band; a suite for sextet inspired by Italo Calvino's *Cosmicomics*; and a new podcast opera about relationships at the dawn of the Internet. www.lisamezzacappa.com

PatsyLu Prize winner: Born in Banqiao, Taiwan, **Chiayu Hsu** was the winner of Lakond prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Left Coast Chamber Ensemble composition contest, Suzanne and Lee Ettelson Composer's Awards, Kaleidoscopes call for scores, Copland House Award, music+culture 2009 International Competition for Composers, the Sorel Organization's 2nd International Composition Competition, the 7th USA International Harp Composition Competition, ASCAP Morton Gould Young

Composer's Awards, the Maxfield Parrish Composition Contest, the Renée B. Fisher Foundation Composer Awards among others. Her work has been performed by the London Sinfonietta, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Nashville Symphony, the Toledo Symphony, the American Composers Orchestra, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra in Taiwan, Aspen Music Festival Contemporary Ensemble, Eighth Blackbird, Ciompi Quartet, and Prism Quartet. She has received her Ph.D. at Duke University, Master of Music at Yale University School of Music, and Bachelor of Music at the Curtis Institute of Music. More information: www.chiayuhsu.com

Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble Prize winner: **Sam Spear** is a jazz woodwind instrumentalist and composer based in Boston, MA. She is a recent graduate of Berklee College of Music with a degree in Performance and Jazz Composition. Spear received the Presidential Scholarship, Jazz Composition Achievement Award, Woodwind Department Achievement Award, and Toshiko Akiyoshi Award while at Berklee. This fall, she will pursue her masters degree in Jazz Performance at New England Conservatory. At Berklee, Spear studied saxophone with Shannon LeClaire, Jim Odgren, and George Garzone. She studied composition with Ayn Inserto, Greg Hopkins, and Bob Pilkington. Spear is a rising voice for gender equality in jazz. She presented her lecture "Mary Lou Williams in the Age of #MeToo" at the 2019 IAWM and FT&M15 joint conference. Her advocacy work was featured in Downbeat's February 2019 issue and in an interview on WBUR. Spear co-founded Women in Jazz Collective, working to empower female artists.

Shapiro Prize Winner: Composer and musician **Ruby Fulton** (b.1981) writes music which invites listeners to explore non-musical ideas through sound. Her musical portfolio includes explorations of mental illness, Buddhism, philosophy, psychedelic research, addiction, and chess strategy; and profiles of iconic popular figures like the artist Jean-Michel Basquiat and musicians Syd Barrett and Whitney Houston. Her music has been performed by the Boulder Philharmonic, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, the American Composers Orchestra, the Holland Symfonia, Volti, and Newspeak; and programmed on the Bang on a Can Marathon, the Guadeamus New Music Festival, and the SONiC Festival. In addition to composing, Fulton works as co-artistic director of the experimental vocal collective Rhymes With Opera, a 5-piece vocal/composer ensemble. She teaches composition and music theory at the University of Idaho Lionel Hampton School of Music. She holds a doctorate from the Peabody Conservatory, with additional degrees from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and Boston University.

Zaimont Prize winner: Inspired by her deep affection to Asian root, Korean-American composer **Seunghye Chrissy Lee**'s music has been described as 'intriguing' and 'enjoyable' (NACWPI Journal), and 'evoking mysterious lushness' (New York Concert Review Inc.). She has received commissions from McCormick Percussion Group, Saxophonist Seung Dong Lee (Selmer Artist), Pianist EunMi Ko (Ensemble Strings and Hammers), and awards and grants from International Alliance for Women in Music (IAWM), ASCAP Plus Award, ASCAP Fellowship for the 70th Wellesley Composers Conference, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and Atlantic Center for the Arts, to name a few. She is a co-founder and a co-artistic director of the Dot The Line Music Festival since 2019. Lee earned her Ph.D. in Music Theory and Composition from Brandeis University, M.M. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and B.M. from Ewha Woman University. Lee serves as an Assistant Professor of Music at Ave Maria University.